



Oklahoma Crop Weather

Oklahoma Field Office

Cooperating with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry

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Weekly Summary for Apr 23-Apr 29

Issued April 30, 2012

Record Heat and Isolated Heavy Rainfall

Above average temperatures and wind continued to dry out the soil, especially in the Panhandle, where extreme drought conditions were still present. Wheat continued to develop ahead of normal with the high temperatures, and limited subsoil moisture from the past year remained a concern. Record-setting temperatures were reached Wednesday, with two Mesonet stations, Erick and Altus, recording 105 degree temperatures. That was an all-time state record for April 25th, and tied the second highest temperature ever recorded for the whole month of April. Storms brought needed moisture for some over the weekend, and too much moisture in the form of flooding for others. Heavy rains were isolated in north central Oklahoma, while much of the southern half of Oklahoma received very little rainfall. Blackwell Mesonet measured 7.23 inches for the week, almost all of which came on Sunday. Hail was also reported in Osage County. Severe weather throughout the past month has led to reports of hail damage and wheat laying down. Topsoil and subsoil moisture conditions were rated mostly adequate. The percentage rated as surplus topsoil moisture increased, due to the flooding. There were 6.2 days suitable for field work.

Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent

Week Ending Sunday, April 29, 2012

Moisture Rating	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago
Topsoil			
Very Short	5	3	45
Short	17	14	23
Adequate	65	75	26
Surplus	13	8	6
Subsoil			
Very Short	10	8	55
Short	27	28	24
Adequate	62	60	17
Surplus	1	4	4

Small Grains: Conditions continued to be rated mostly good for all small grains, and all stages were ahead of normal. **Wheat** heading was 97 percent complete by the end of the week, 17 points ahead of last year and 33 points ahead of normal. Forty-one percent of the crop had reached the soft dough stage of development, far in advance of the five-year average. The **canola** crop was 41 percent mature by Sunday, just four points ahead of the last year's crop. **Rye** heading was 95 percent complete, and 44 percent was in the soft dough stage by the end of the week. **Oat** jointing was 89 percent complete and 41 percent was headed by Sunday, 21 points ahead of normal.

Row Crops: Planting was underway for all row crops. **Corn** planting reached 68 percent complete by the end of the week, and 40 percent had emerged. **Sorghum** seedbed preparation was 68 percent complete, and 12 percent was planted by Sunday, even with the five-year average. Preparation of **soybean** seedbeds was 62 percent complete by week's end, with 11 percent planted. **Peanut** seedbed preparation was 72 percent complete, and 14 percent of the crop was planted by week's end, five points ahead of normal. **Cotton** seedbed preparation was 82 percent complete, and a small portion was planted by Sunday.

Watermelon planting was 57 percent complete by the end of the week, 23 points ahead of the five-year average.

Hay: Conditions for both alfalfa and other hay were rated mostly good. A first cutting of **alfalfa** hay was 59 percent complete by the end of the week; a first cutting of **other hay** was 29 percent complete, both well ahead of normal.

Pasture and Livestock: Pasture and range conditions continued to be rated mostly good to fair. Livestock conditions continued to be rated mostly good. Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$155 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$143 per cwt.

Conditions by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, April 29, 2012

Commodity	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	1	4	20	53	22
Canola	1	4	23	49	23
Rye	1	3	16	57	23
Oats	1	2	19	55	23
Alfalfa Hay	1	4	29	52	14
Other Hay	1	5	29	52	13
Livestock	0	7	27	55	11
Pasture and Range	3	9	30	48	10

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Crop Progress by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, April 29, 2012

Crop	Stage	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago	Five Year Average
Wheat	Headed	97	89	80	64
	Soft Dough	41	15	9	7
Canola	Mature	41	36	37	N/A
Rye	Headed	95	94	97	87
	Soft Dough	44	15	11	N/A
Oats	Jointing	89	80	67	75
	Headed	41	32	19	20
Corn	Planted	68	62	77	69
	Emerged	40	29	26	35
Sorghum	Seedbed Prepared	68	67	68	57
	Planted	12	6	7	12
Soybeans	Seedbed Prepared	62	50	55	54
	Planted	11	5	9	12
Peanuts	Seedbed Prepared	72	62	79	80
	Planted	14	5	N/A	9
Cotton	Seedbed Prepared	82	80	66	76
Alfalfa Hay	1st Cutting	59	36	26	24
Other Hay	1st Cutting	29	18	12	10
Watermelons	Planted	57	47	33	34

Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

Week Ending Sunday, April 29, 2012

Weather for Week Ending April 29, 2012:

Temperatures ranged from 34 degrees at Breckinridge and Lake Carl Blackwell on Monday, April 23rd, to 105 degrees at Altus and Erick on Wednesday, April 25th. Precipitation ranged from less than one hundredth of an inch in the Southeast district to 2.62 inches in the North Central district. Soil temperature averages ranged from 58 degrees at Foraker and Freedom on Monday, April 23rd, to 81 degrees at Burneyville on Saturday, April 28th.

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	Current Week	March 1, 2012 to April 29, 2012		
					Total	Departure From Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Inches	Inches	Inches	Percent
Panhandle	83	50	67	0.45	4.33	0.92	127
West Central	84	55	70	1.03	5.16	0.25	105
Southwest	86	57	71	0.16	6.74	1.90	139
North Central	82	54	69	2.62	8.04	2.50	145
Central	82	59	70	0.33	8.25	1.60	124
South Central	82	60	71	0.01	8.18	0.99	114
Northeast	80	58	69	0.99	10.73	3.19	142
East Central	80	59	70	0.01	8.15	-0.12	99
Southeast	80	57	69	0.00	9.83	1.01	111

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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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